

Greetings from the Secondary Art Department!

Your student has enrolled in a high school art course this year. Within all art courses, students will be challenged through a variety of learning experiences including: creating art, learning about art history and cultures, critiquing and reflecting on their artwork as well as their peers'. In the past students have critiqued their work and work of peers in many different ways. A new method I would like to try this year involves creating an online portfolio or "blog" to showcase each student's talents. I will be helping students set up a blog as well as monitor them periodically. Before creating a blog, students will view a practice blog I created and discuss netiquette (proper online behavior). The format for the blog will be a free site called blogger. Please feel free to check out this site with your student: <http://www.blogger.com> . At this website you can take a tour of the site or watch a video tutorial. I have also created a sample one at: <http://dawggonecreative.blogspot.com>

Another exciting piece about blogging is that you may also view your student's blog to see what he or she is working on. Students may also choose to link this site to a future portfolio or resume.

In addition to this handout, I have included the expectations for this project. Students will not be expected to include any personal photos or detailed descriptions in regards to themselves. For grading and monitoring purposes I will require students to share their blog link with me.

I look forward to another exciting year work with your student and watching the creativity flourish! I hope to see you at Conferences as well as our annual Fine Arts Fair in the Spring.

For course information, classroom expectations, and other news, check out the Secondary Art Department at:

<http://www.vmsecondaryartdepartment.wikispaces.com>

In closing, please fill out the bottom of this form and send it back to school with your student. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email me at rebecca.comer@vmbulldogs.com or call 996-2221 ext. 159. –Blessings, Mrs. Comer

I, _____ give my permission for my student, _____ to create a student blog using blogger.com for reflecting/portfolio purposes.

I, _____ request that my student, _____ not be allowed to create an online portfolio, rather a paper version instead.